





My dear mouse friends,

Have I ever told you how much I love science fiction? I've always wanted to write incredible adventures set in another dimension, but I've never believed that parallel universes exist . . . until now!

That's because my good friend Professor Paws von Volt, the brilliant, secretive scientist, has just made an incredible discovery. Thanks to some mousetropic calculations, he determined that there are many different dimensions in time and space, where anything could be possible.

The professor's work inspired me to write this science fiction adventure in which my family and I travel through space in search of new worlds.

We're a fabumouse crew:

the spacemice!

I hope you enjoy this intergalactic adventure!

Gevonimo Stilton

Professor
Paws von Volt

THE SPACEMICE

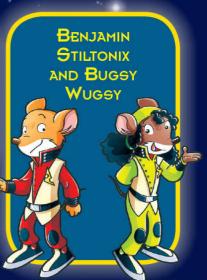












Geronimo Stilton



SLURP MONSTER SHOWDOWN



Scholastic Inc.

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AN UNEXPLORED PLANET!

Everything was cosmically when I woke up on my spaceship that morning. I left my cabin, whistling as I headed to the control room. I couldn't wait to **sink** into my captain's chair and munch on some **GORGONZOLO GRONOLO**, but when I got there . . .

Oh, excuse me—I haven't introduced myself. My name is Stiltonix, Geronimo Stiltonix, and I am captain of the *MouseStar 1*, the most mouserific spaceship in the universe!

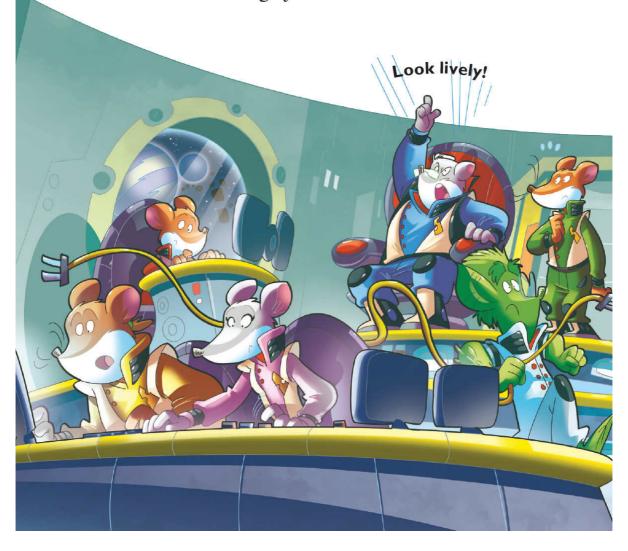
As I was saying, as soon as I entered the control room, a **Thunder of the Thunder of the State o**

AN UNEXPLORED PLANET!



"Look lively, you **limp lunar cheese sticks!**" yelled my grandfather William Stiltonix. He was sitting in my chair, **SHOUTING** orders at the whole crew.

"Grandfather, how nice to **SEE** you," I said. "What brings you to the control room?"





"My feet, Grandson—and they're a lot than yours!" he snapped. "You're Late for work!"

I stammered. "B-b-but we didn't have any missions planned today!"

"What a lazybones!" Grandfather said. "If it were up to you, this spaceship would stay in **orbit** forever."

Before I could defend myself,

Robotix, the ship's robot, floated over to Grandfather.

"Admiral Stiltonix, we're ready!" he said. "We have locked in the

coordinates for our launch into hyperspace."

Launch into hyperspace?

HOLEY CRATERS!



Hearing those words made my whiskers tremble in fright.

Entering hyperspace meant *accelerating* faster than the speed of light—which really does a number on my stomach!

"Er, Grandfather, why exactly do we need to LAUNCH into hyperspace?" I asked.

"Because we're **explorers**, Grandson!" he replied. "I recently identified a planet all the way at the end of the universe. It's named **Mozzarellon**, and no spacemouse has ever set paw on it. We will be the first to explore it!"

I gulped. "The end of the universe?" That sounded awfully Far away.

But Grandfather had his mind made up. "Full speed ahead!" he commanded.

The ship lurched forward, and the



acceleration was so strong that I flew backward! I BUMPED my head on the floor, fainted, and began having the most wonderful dream . . .

In my dream, I was on the beaches of the planet **Tropicalix**. Walking next to me

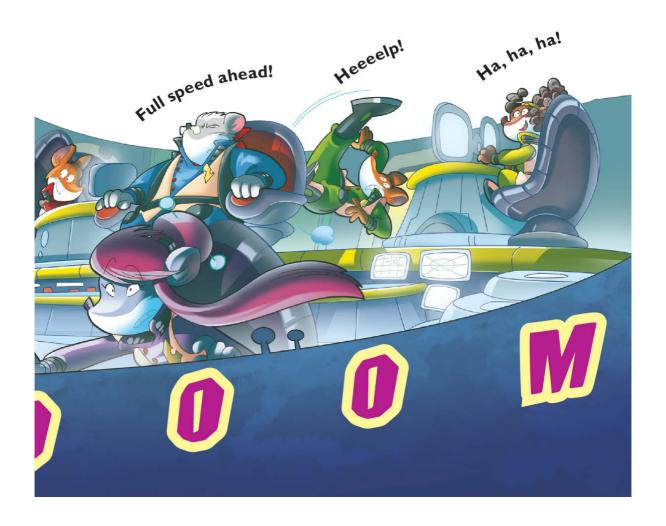


AN UNEXPLORED PLANET!



was **Sally de Wrench**, the talented technician of the *MouseStar 1*—and also the most **FASCINATING** rodent in the galaxy . . .

A pull on my whiskers **Joleto** me awake. I opened my eyes and gasped. I wasn't





looking at the kind face of Sally de Wrench—I was looking at the **goofy** face of my cousin Trap!

"Wake up, Geronimo!" he said, **shaking me** forcefully. "We've arrived at the planet
Mozzarellon. It's a **mousetastic** place!
We've got to get out there and explore!
Come with me right now!"

A mousetastic place?
Go with him?
But why?



THE EXPLORATION иогеег М

I was still fuzzy from bumping my head. I couldn't remember what had just happened, and I didn't understand what Trap was talking about. But I knew one thing for Come on, Geronimo! sure: I didn't want to do it!

Trap grabbed me by the

paws and got me back

on my feet.

"Cousin, what is this all about?" I snapped.

"I'll **SHOW** you,"

he replied.

He led me to the





large monitor and showed me a planet as white as milk, surrounded by a cosmic cloud.

"It's the planet Mozzarellon!" he told me. "While you fainted, we launched into hyperspace and entered the planet's **ORBIT!**"

Then Trap typed into a keyboard and an encyclopedia entry popped up. "Look!





There's WILD MOZZARELLA growing on the planet. We have to go check it out!"

Suddenly, I remembered Grandfather William's plans to **explore** the planet. I was trying to gather my thoughts when Trap interrupted me.

"Come on, Ger!" he urged, pushing me into the teleportation room. "The

Teletransportix is ready

to teleport us to the planet's surface! By lunchtime we'll

be **ENJOYING** the first wild mozzarella in space!"

"Wait just one minute," I protested. "No mouse has ever set paw on Mozzarellon before.



We need to do some TESTS before we go down there. There could be Galactic or Space microbes . . . "

My voice trailed off when the doors of the room opened up, and in stepped **Sally de Wrench**!

Glittering galaxies, she was even

more fascinating in person!

I didn't want her

to see how

NERVOUS

I was, so I turned to Trap and spoke in my most captainlike voice.

"Cousin, I would be happy





to accompany you on your exploration mission, but as **captain** of this spaceship I must stay here and do some important captain business!"

"But every **exploration mission** needs two rodents," Trap said. "How will I do it alone?"

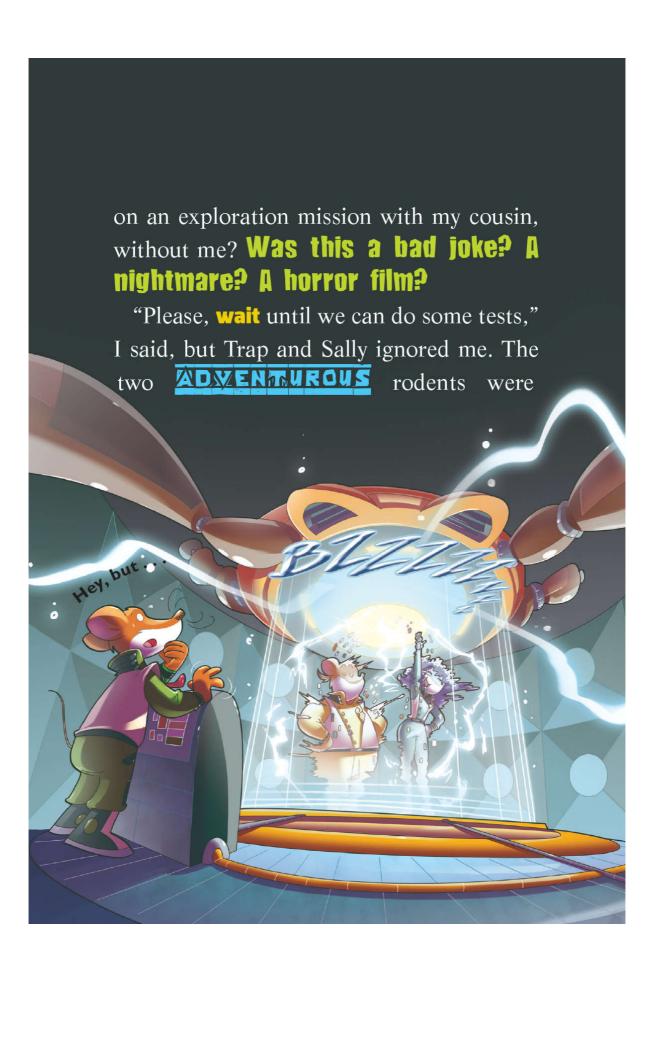
Then something happened that I did not

Sally stepped forward. "Trap, I will go with you," she said.

Cheesy

Comets!

Was the rodent of my dreams about to go





so eager to explore Mozzarellon! They stepped into the Teletransportix and entered the planet's coordinates. Then they DEMATERIALIZED right before my eyes!

I **stared** at the empty Teletransportix for a few minutes, blinking. Then I headed back to the control room.

So far, my morning was **stinking** worse than rotten cheese!



CODE YELLOW!

I **slumped** back to the control room, disappointed in myself. I was worried that I had looked like a **scaredy-rat** in front of Sally!

To make matters **Wolfe**, Grandfather William started yelling at me.

"What are you doing here, Grandson?" he asked. "You should be on Mozzarellon!"

I sighed. "I just think we should test for **SPAGE BAGTERIA**, and . . . "

"Tests take too much time!" said my sister, Thea. "I can't wait to get down there!" "Really?" I asked.

Thea nodded. "I want to ride my SPACE MOTORCYCLE on the surface!"

"Did you hear that, you Cheese loaf?"

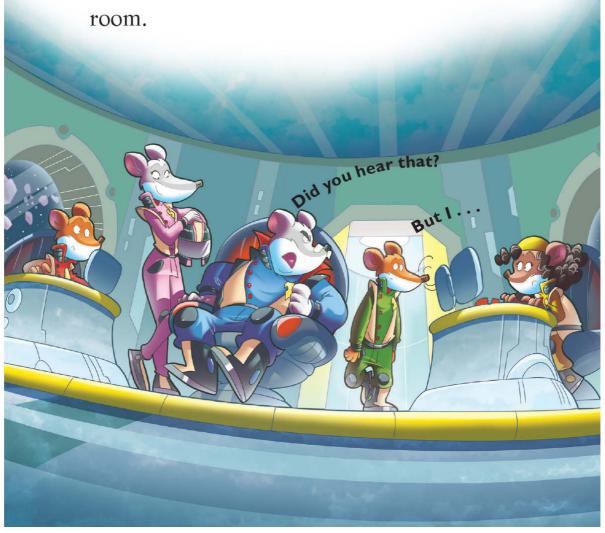
CODE YELLOW!



Grandpa asked. "Thea has the spirit of a true captain!"

with embarrassment, I walked over to my nephew Benjamin.

He was watching Trap and Sally's mission on one of the **SCREENS** in the control room





Benjamin SMILED at me. "Uncle, don't be Worriëd about exploring Mozzarellon. Bugsy and I will go with you when you're done testing for space bacteria."

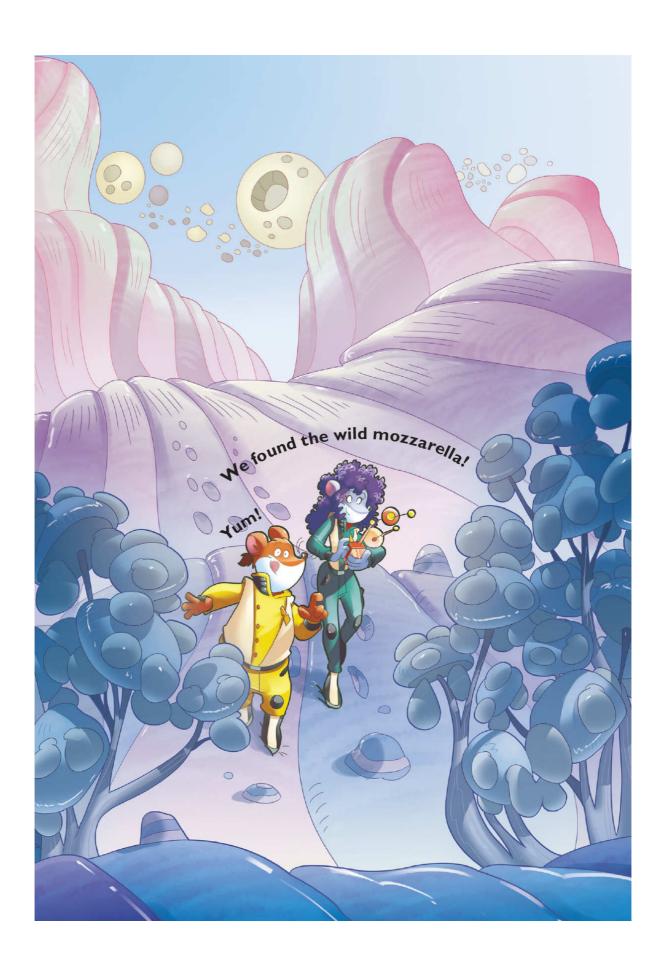
GALACTIC GOUDA, he is such a sweet little nephew!

I watched the screen with him. Trap and Sally were walking inside a shallow **CRater**.

"Look! They found the **WILD MOZZARELLA** shrubs!" Benjamin cried.

The crew gathered around us, **curious**. Starry space dust, it was true! Growing inside the crater were **strong** e space plants that had plump balls of mozzarella growing on their branches!

Professor Greenfur, the ship's scientist, nodded his head. "Now





this is a truly mousetastic discovery!" he remarked.

Then we heard a Y E L L from Hologramix, the ship's computer.

"Unidentified aliens are approaching the exploration team!

Code yellow! Code yellow!"

Thea turned on her wrist phone. "Trap, can you hear me? You need to be careful. Someone is coming toward you. It could be dangerous!"

But it was already **too late**. On the screen we could see Trap and Sally's **cerrifica** faces. Then Trap began to stammer.

"H-HEY, WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US? WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG! HELP!"



Then the screen went blank. Total **silence** fell over the control room.

"Something tells me that those aliens weren't friendly," Professor Greenfur said.

Aaaaah!

My fear had frozen me like Plutonian ice. Thea shook me.

"We've got to get

down there!

There's not a moment to lose!" she cried.

Oh, for all the shooting stars—my sister was right!

I sprang into **action** and started to quickly organize a **rescue mission**. Robotix, Thea, and I would go to the



planet. Grandfather William and Professor Greenfur would coordinate the operations from Mousestar 1.

I stepped onto the **Teletransportix** platform with my team when Benjamin and his friend Bugsy ran up to me.

"We're coming, too!" he announced. "We've already made a map of this planet, so we'll be useful."

I shook my head. "No way! This could be a very **DANGEROUS** mission," I said.

But the two little spacemice **climbed** onto the platform just as Professor Greenfur activated it!

My head began to **SPin** as the machine started to break apart our **IDLES** into tiny pieces. **Cosmic cheese chunks**, what a terrible feeling!



I don't like the Teletransportix, but I had to help Trap and Sally.

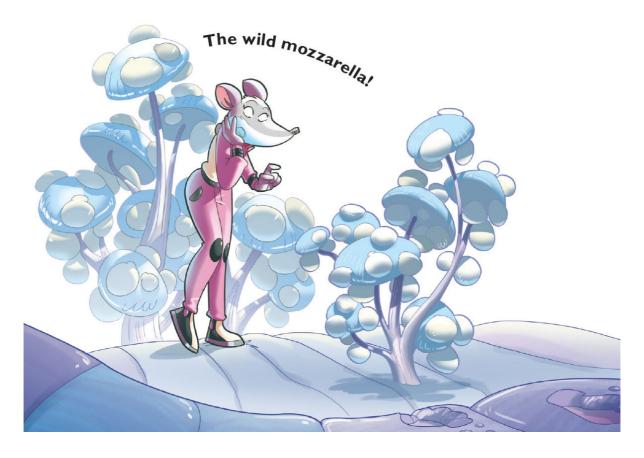
| was ready for anything!





CRUSTY, RUSTY BOLTS!

We landed inside the same crater that Trap and Sally had been exploring. But where were they? And WHO—or WHOT—had scared them?



CRUSTY, RUSTY BOLTS!



We began to examine the crater for clues.

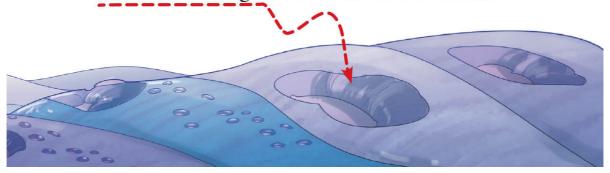
Thea studied a wild mozzarella shrub. "Amazing! Imagine that—mozzarella growing from a bush!"

Benjamin started to **BOUNCE** up and down. "The planet's surface is soft and kind of **gummy**," he remarked.

"It's like walking on a big mattress!" Bugsy said happily.

I didn't like the **bouncy** surface. It was starting to make me feel **seasick**! I took a few steps and lost my balance, landing whisker-first on the ground.

Luckily, it was so **soft** that I wasn't hurt—and from down there I could see TRACKS along the bottom of the crater.



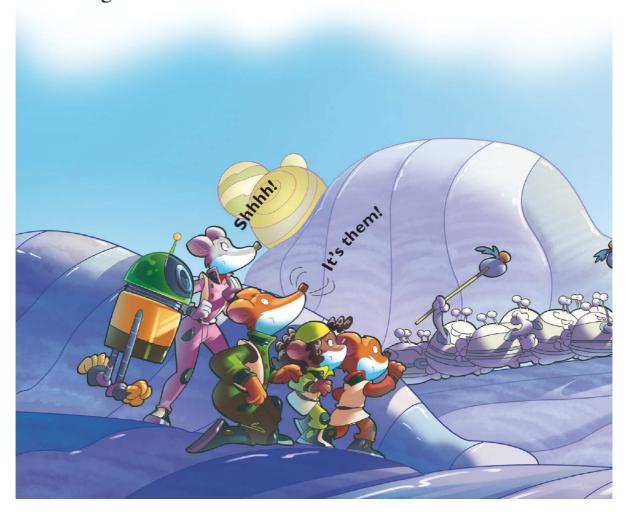


"Those are **Trap's and Sally's** pawprints!" I exclaimed.

"Good job, Ger!" Thea praised me.

We saw **smaller** tracks next to the pawprints.

"Those must be alien tracks!" Thea guessed.



CRUSTY, RUSTY BOLTS!



We followed them. After a while, Trap and Sally's tracks DISAPPEARED. And the alien's footprints looked DEEPER.

"Hmm. What happened here?" Thea wondered. Then we heard voices.

I JUMPED at the noise. "That sounds like Trap and Sally!"





Thea raised a finger to her lips. "STATE We don't want the aliens to see us!"

We hid behind the edge of the crater and peeked out. **Shooting stars!** Trap and Sally were tied up on a pole!

The aliens who had captured them were small, **round**, and **chubby**. They all wore milky-white clothing. They each had two cheerful **EYES** on top of tall stalks.

"These must be the CHEES!" aliens," Thea whispered. "Let's approach them carefully."

So Thea, Benjamin, Bugsy, Robotix, and I **quietly** stepped out of our hiding place and began to follow them from a safe distance.

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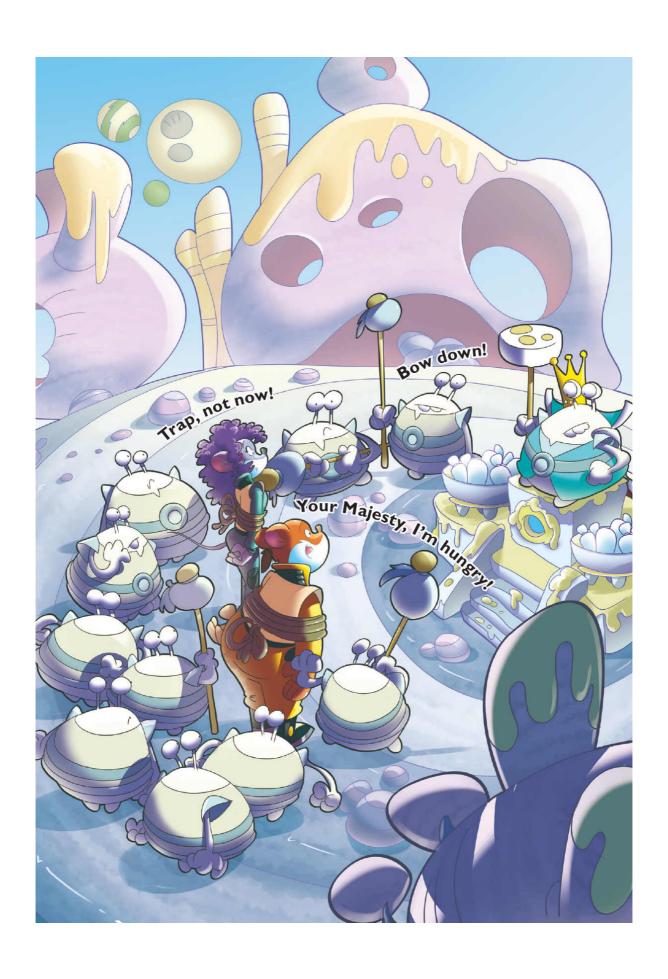
A VERY CHEESY PLANET!

After a really Lone walk, the aliens arrived in what looked to be their capital city. We walked past houses that looked like **GiANT** soft, round mozzarella balls painted in light colors.

Mousey melecrifies, this was turning out to be one cheesy planet!

The cheesix led Trap and Sally into a large square, where their **king** was seated on a throne that almost looked like a washing machine. I could tell he was a king because he wore a **CROUN** on his head.

The king also wore a fancy **lurguoise** outfit, complete with a long cloak. On either



A VERY CHEESY PLANET!



side of his throne were large PLatters of mozzarella.

The aliens carried Sally and Trap to the foot of the throne. Then the aliens watched with **Pearful** looks on their faces, waiting to hear what the king would say.

"Until the foreigners and bring them closer!" he commanded. "I want them to bow down to **Spherus the Third**, the leader of Mozzarellon and king of the cheesix people . . . me!"

The aliens quickly untied Sally and Trap. My cousin **blurted** out, "Your Majesty, I am very hungry!"

The king frowned. He did not look pleased with Trap's **Contractor**.

"Trap, not now!" Sally hissed.

But Trap continued. "I have wanted to taste your wild MOZZARELLA ever since I



landed on this planet. May !?"

Without waiting for an answer, my cousin reached his paw toward one of the king's platters and **grabbed** a mozzarella ball! He bit into it.

"I as to a "he exclaimed, with his mouth full. "Do you know what goes great with mozzarella balls? A touch of tomato sauce from the planet Vega. Put them together and you get a whisker-licking-good snack!"

He took a bottle of the tomato sauce from his pocket. As quick as a comet he poured some onto a mozzarella ball—and accidentally **squirted** some onto the king's clothes!

"Aaaaah!" shrieked the king. "How dare you dirty me with your messy sauce, stranger?!"



The king waved his scepter. "Guards, grab him! Take him to the Hypnotizer!"

Benjamin and Bugsy looked up at me, worried.

"Uncle, what's a hypnotizer?" Benjamin asked.

Holey craters, I had no idea! But it didn't sound good at all!



THE FOOL'S DANCE

Before we could react, **King Spherus** hopped off his throne and the aliens brought Trap over to it. The throne definitely looked like a strange **washing machine**. Apparently, it was the Hypnotizer! The aliens slipped a **cap** on Trap's head and connected it to the machine with a tube. Then the machine started to shoot out tiny little **BUBBLES**.

"What are they doing?" asked Benjamin, alarmed.

"I have discovered information about the Hypnotizer in my Data Banks," Robotix reported.

"What do they say?" I asked.

"The Hypnotizer is a mostly harmless



machine," Robotix replied.

I looked at Trap, who was **SMILING**. He seemed to be okay.

Thea was suspicious. "Mostly harmless?"

Before Robotix could answer, the machine stopped bubbling. The aliens took the strange cap off Trap's head. He blinked.

"Hey, guys, I suddenly have a **Strong**

From the Encyclopedia Galactica THE HUPNOTIZER

Description: Alien technology used by the cheesix of planet Mozzarellon. It causes a temporary change in personality, and the effects can wear off in as quickly as a few hours or as long as a week.

Effects: Whoever is connected to the Hypnotizer will be overcome by a strong desire to wash and iron things. It is a useful device for those who are lazy and hate to do their chores.





Urge to do some housework," he said. "Do you have any spacesuits that need washing or IRONING?"

Two aliens brought Trap a big tub of **dirty** laundry. We all looked at Robotix.

"As you see, the Hypnotizer makes you want to **Clean** things," Robotix said.

"These cheesix really seem to like things clean," Thea remarked.

"It's true," Benjamin said.

"I don't see a speck of dirt on any of them."





Trap was already **BUSY** at work, ironing spacesuits. We couldn't help **Laughing**. Normally, Trap hated doing chores!

Then King Spherus spoke up. "Since the stranger has responded so well to the Hypnotizer, let's proceed with his friend as well! **FOUR DAWS** doing the wash are better than two!"

Now, it was one thing to see Trap under the Hypnotizer's spell. But I couldn't bear to see Sally turn into a Clothes-washing zombie! I ran out of my hiding place.

"Hold it right there! We are the spacemice, and we come in peace!" I yelled. "We're here to LEGED about your planet, not Clean it!"

"What are you doing?" Thea asked.
But Sally was all I could think about.



I RAW toward the center of the square, yelling,

"Saaallyyy, don't be afraaaid! I'll saaave yooou!"

I was halfway there when I TRIPPED on



THE FOOL'S DANCE



a bump in the planet's surface! I didn't want to fall and look like a fool in front of Sally. Trying to keep my balance, I struck a series of **ridiculous** poses and finally landed in front of the king's throne.

What a galactically terrible entrance!





A STRANGE RESEMBLANCE

I closed my eyes, waiting for King Spherus to yell at me. Instead, I heard the aliens all talking at once.

"Incredible!" one yelled.

"AMAZING!" shouted another.

"IT'S REALLY hiM!" King Spherus exclaimed.

Then the aliens broke into **thunderous** applause, and they all bowed to me—even the king!

I was cosmically confused!

Why were they so excited?

King Spherus exclaimed, "Bring me the Big Book of Space Legends!"

A STRANGE RESEMBLANCE



Two aliens ran up with the book. The king took it from them.

"An **SNEWY** legend says that one day a here will arrive on our planet," he explained. "This hero will be known as the

"That's a nice story," I said. "But what does this Cheesemaster guy have to do with me?"

King Spherus opened the book and showed me a picture. "The legend says that



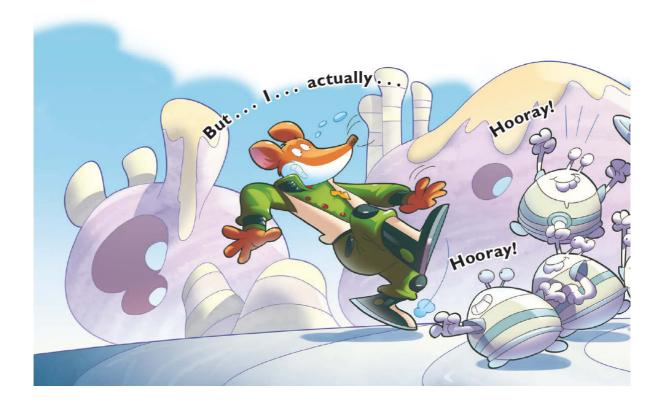
A STRANGE RESEMBLANCE



the Cheesemaster will Risk his life to save his companions. Then he will make himself known by doing a dance."

I looked at the picture in the book. Jumping Jupiter, I really did have a strange resemblance to the Cheesemaster! And his dance moves in the picture looked just like the silly moves I had made when I tripped!

"JORRY, but that wasn't actually a



A STRANGE RESEMBLANCE



dance," I tried to explain, but King Spherus wasn't listening.

"We must celebrate our hero from the skies!" he announced, and the aliens all cheered.

Then the cheesix raced around, organizing a great **CELEBRATION**. They invited all of my friends as *honored* guests—even Trap and Sally.

Trap, surprisingly, turned down the





invitation. "No, thank you," he said, his eyes weirdly **BLANK**. "I have way too much **laundry** to do." Then the aliens escorted him to an enormouse Laundromat, where he got busy **Washing** more alien spacesuits. Poor Trap!

The effects of the Hypnotizer still hadn't worn off!

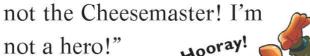




A PARTY . . . WITH A SURPRISE!

The party was very embarrassing for me. The cheesix put a mozzarella necklace around my neck and began to carry me around like a **HERO**.

"Look, this is a **Mistake**," I said. "I am

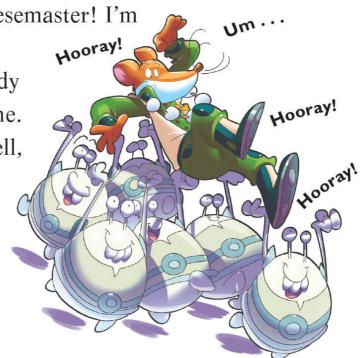


But nobody listened to me.

As night fell,

music

began to play, and everyone



began to dance.

Benjamin and Bugsy had a
lot of fun, especially when
Robotix tried to teach the aliens
his favorite dance, the ROBOT
SHUFFLE.

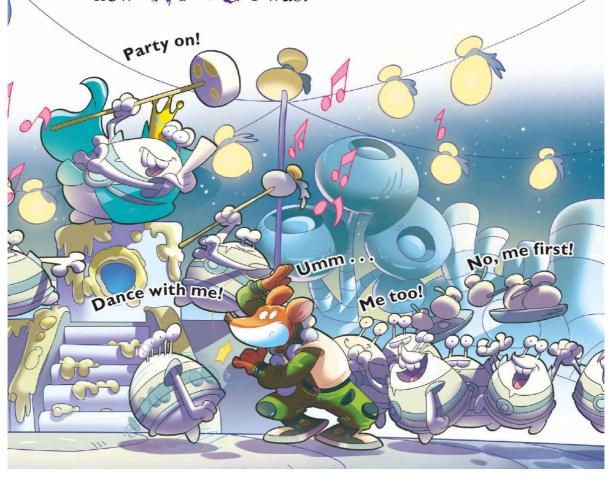
The cheesix were **CONFUSED** at first, but they picked it up quickly.





As it turns out, the cheesix were very **good dancers**, and they could dance all night without stopping. And **QUOSS** they wanted to dance with? Me!

I danced and danced until my fur was **FRAZZLED** and my whiskers were **DROOTING**. The cheesix didn't understand how tired I was.





"Cheesemaster, don't you like the music?" one asked me. "We can put on **Taylor Swiss!** Or do you like space rap? How about some Chee-Zo?"

I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!

I marched up to King Spherus on my tired paws.

"Your Majesty, when does the dancing end?" I asked. "My muscles are as well!"

"You can go to sleep now, Cheesemaster," the king replied. "Tomorrow you have a busy day!"

"Busy?" I asked, suspicious.

"Tomorrow you will complete the **second part** of the prophecy," King Spherus answered, smiling. "That's when the Cheesemaster challenges the **Slurp Monster** to a duel and frees our people!"



DUEL? SLURP MONSTER?!

I broke out into a cold sweat. My whiskers began to **TREMBLE** in fright.

"Slurp Monster?" I asked.

"The Slurp Monster lives on the other side of our planet," the king explained. "He





is a horrible, GIANT, furry monster!"

"M=m=monster?" I stammered.

King Spherus nodded. "The monster spends most of his time **sleeping**. But when he wakes up, he comes out of his cave and stomps on our **mozzarella** bushes—then slurps up way more mozzarella than he needs! He **STOMPS** and *slurps* until he's exhausted, and then he goes back to sleep."

"And how exactly do you expect my brother to DUEL this monster?" Thea asked.

"He's the HERO—he should know," the king replied. "And when he wins, he can tell the monster not to bother us anymore."

Great galaxies, what a Night Mare!

I didn't want to **fight** a monster. I wasn't the Cheesemaster—but none of the aliens



believed me. There was only one thing I could do: **run**!

I didn't get very far before the king's guards surrounded me.

"Take him to the **LIXUTY** space cell!" King Spherus commanded. "We must treat the Cheesemaster well, but we must also make sure he doesn't **run** off. We've waited two hundred years for him to arrive!"





I'm Not a Warrior! I'm Not!

That's how I ended up in a luxury space apartment—one with **BARS** on the door and windows!

I huddled on my bed, **SHAKING** like a spacequake.

"Oh, for a million moons! How am I supposed to duel a giant monster? I'm not a warrow. I'm a space captain who would rather be a full-time writer!" I wailed.

All I could think about was the horrible Slurp Monster, who would surely reduce me to space dust in an astrosecond!

Suddenly, I heard a voice from the



"Geronimo! We're here!"

I turned and Saw Thea with Benjamin, Bugsy, Sally, and Robotix!

I **jumped** up. "How great to see you!" I exclaimed, relief washing over me. "How did you **find** me?"

"It was easy," Thea replied. "After all that dancing, the cheesix fell into a deep sleep."



"The whole city is snoring, including the king!" Sally continued. "So it was simple to follow the guards without being noticed."

"And we found a way to

help you, Uncle," Benjamin added.

I brightened up. "Really? You can get me out?"

"Well, not exactly . . . " Thea replied, her voice trailing off.

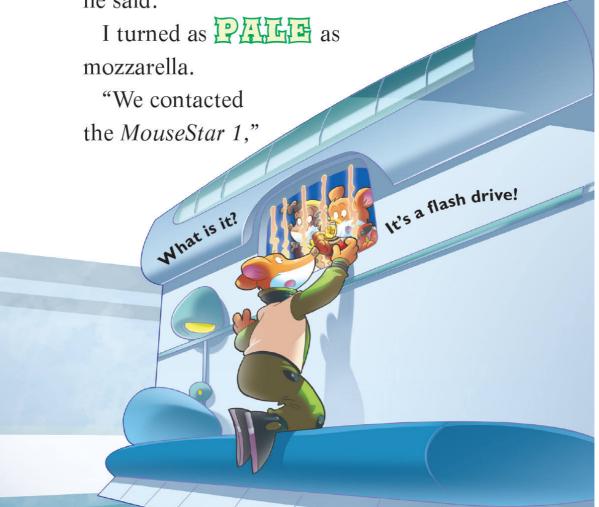
Sally nodded. "Actually, Captain, we don't have the technology to deactivate the LASER bars in your cell."



"So then how are you going to help me?" I asked in a tiny voice.

Benjamin pulled a small **gadget** from his pocket. It looked like a piece of cheese. He passed it to me through the bars.

"We can help you **DEFEAT** the monster," he said.





Benjamin went on. "Hologramix gathered all known data on the **SLURP MONSTER** and put it on this flash drive for you. If you connect it to your wrist computer, you can see all the information."

Bugsy nodded. "We discovered that the monster has a few **Weaknesses**," she said. "You can **STUDY** them as you prepare for the duel."

I couldn't believe it. "But I'm not a **Warrior!** What good will it do me to know my monster's weaknesses if I faint as soon as I see him?"

"You have no choice, Ger," Thea said.

I sighed. "All right. I promise I will be to the "

I needed to get to work. I didn't have much time to learn all the secrets of the SLURP MONSTER!



THE POWER OF TICKLING!

Thea and the others left, and I inserted the flash drive into my wrist computer.

the watch and quickly began to take shape. Blinking, I watched as two rodents whom I knew **very well** appeared before me.

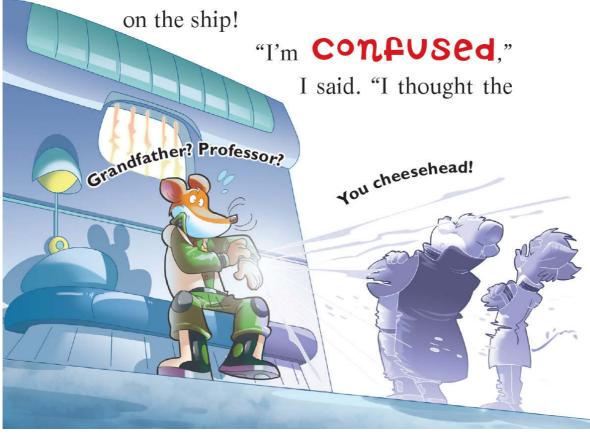
"Professor Greenfur? Grandfather? What are you doing here?" I asked.

"I knew you would fall for it like



a **cheesehead**, Grandson!" Grandfather William replied in a booming voice. "We're not real! What you are seeing is a **three-dimensional** image of us, **PROJECTED** from your wrist computer!"

I reached out to touch them, but my paw passed right through them as though they were cosmic clouds. They were holograms, just like Hologramix back on the ship!





flash drive contained deta about the Slurp Monster, not you!"

"We've got the data for you," Grandfather replied. "Thea tells me that you're afraid to duel this monster. Is that right?"

"Well, basically . . . " I began.

"You're as **soft** as cream cheese!" Grandfather barked. "You need to buck up and act like **hard cheese**, like a sharp cheddar!"

"So you want me to act like cheese?" I asked, confused.

At that point, an image of the Slurp Monster *projected* from my wrist. Professor Greenfur began to speak.

"As you can see, the Slurp Monster has six arms and one big eye," he began.

I gulped. "And one **enormouse** mouth!"



"They are very RARE creatures," Professor Greenfur continued. "In fact, only one or two can be found in each galaxy. Despite their terrible appearance, they are not as **TOUGH** as they look. They have a major **weak spot**."

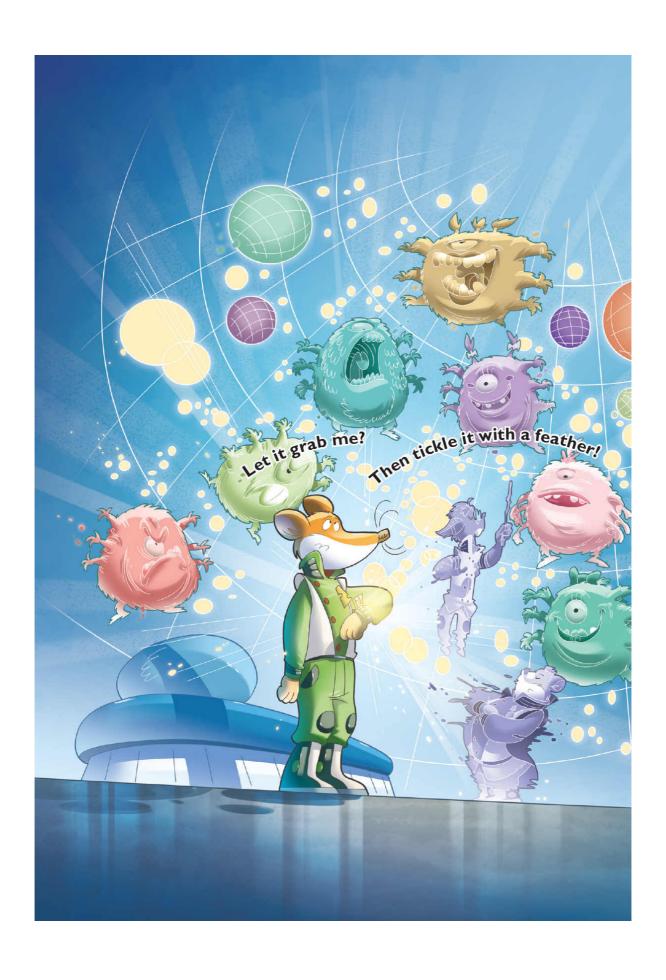
Now I was curious. "What's their weak spot?"

"They are extremely **ticklish**!" the professor replied.

Cosmic cheddar, those beasts were ticklish? I couldn't believe it.

"There is one way to defeat this monster," Professor Greenfur went on. "Allow the creature to grab you. Just before you are swallowed up, tickle it with a **feather**."

"Did you say I should let it GRAB ME?" I asked nervously, but the professor ignored me.





"If this maneuver is carried out correctly, the monster will start LAUGHING and give up the duel," Professor Greenfur explained.

"So **listen up**, Grandson!" Grandfather barked. "Tomorrow, when the duel begins, Thea will toss you a feather. The rest should be as **easy** as taking cheese nuggets from a baby rodent."

I frowned. Tickling a GUANT space monster didn't sound easy to me!

"Our time is up," Grandfather said. "Hologram projection will drain the battery life of your wrist computer pretty quickly. Behave like a **true captain** tomorrow, you hear?!"

The images **faded**, and I was alone in my cell. I tried to sleep, but images of the Slurp Monster danced in my worried mind . . .

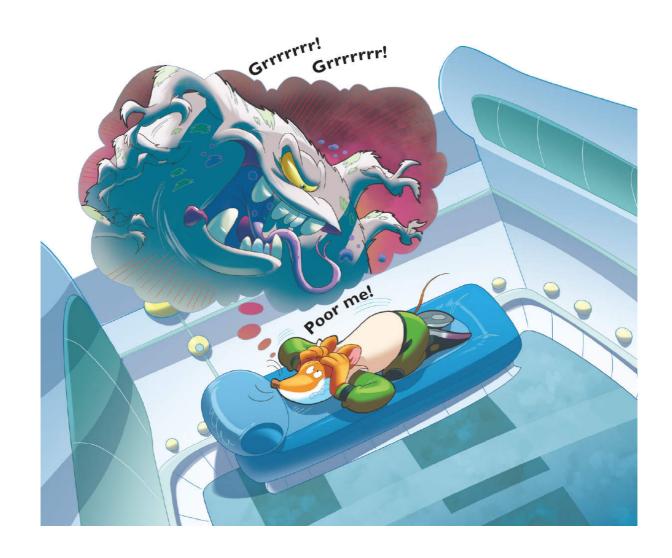
When I did fall asleep, I had terrible

THE POWER OF TICKLING!



nightmares that the Slurp Monster grabbed me and **gobbled** me down in one bite!

Galactic Gorgonzola, how scary!



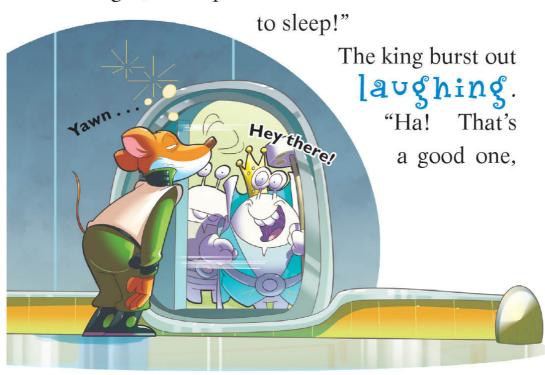


SNORE . . . RUMBLE!

The next morning, KING SPHERUS and a group of guards came to get me.

"Cheesemaster, did you sleep well?" the king asked. "Are you ready for the big duel with the Slurp Monster?"

"Actually, I Tossed and turned all night," I replied. "I was too afraid





Cheesemaster. I like a hero with a **sense** of humor."

I knew there was nothing I could say to convince him that I was not a TERO, so I didn't say anything. The guards led me out of my cell and brought me to a small SPECE Shuttle. We departed for the other side of the planet, where the monster lived.

During the trip I looked out the window and saw that a space shuttle from the MouseStar 1 was following us. I kept my snout shut, because I knew that my friends were behind me! That gave me a bit (but just a bit) of courage.

When we landed, the ground began to **shake**...

"Just what we need—a **SPaceQuake**!" I yelled.

"That's not a spacequake, Cheesemaster,"



King Spherus said, amused. "It's just the Slurp Monster, SNORING! His snores are so strong they make the ground RUMBLE."

Mosting stars! The Slurp Monster was bigger than I'd realized!

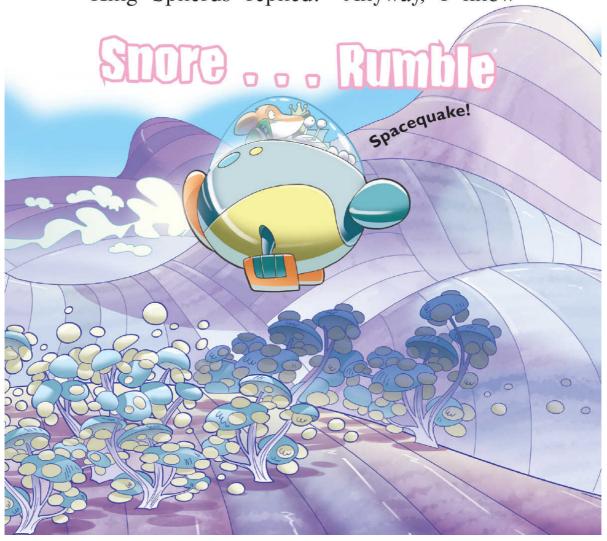
I thought maybe I could use the situation





to my ADVANTAGE. "If the monster is snoring so hard, maybe this isn't the best time to wake him," I suggested. "We might just make him **angry**."

"The Slurp Monster is a liways angry," King Spherus replied. "Anyway, I know





a trick that can help you **expect** the monster."

"A trick?" I asked hopefully. "Well, that changes everything. What is it?"

King Spherus frowned. "You're pretty **impatient** for a hero, Cheesemaster. I'll tell you when the time is ready."

I sighed. The king just didn't get it. I wasn't impatient . . .

I was frightened out of my fur!

metal.

A RUDE AWAKENING

We stepped out of the shuttle in front of a large Cave.

"That is where the Slurp Monster Sleeps," King Spherus explained.

My whiskers were **trembling** with fright as we stepped inside the dark cave. There, snoring away, was the giant **SLURP MONSTER!** He was even more **terrifying** in person.

The guards approached him and began to **shake** him to wake him up. But the monster kept snoring.

"Use a long stick to pry open his eye!" the king ordered.

The guards prodded the monster's **EYE**, but he just started snoring **LOUDER** than before.



"Maybe we should just leave," I suggested.

The king ignored me. "Use the **SPace resonator!**" he commanded.

The cheesix put a machine that looked like an **chormouse** trumpet up to the monster's ear. Then

The resonator let out a sound like a siren. The monster opened his eye and let out a terrible $\mathbb{R} \circlearrowleft \mathbb{A} \mathbb{R}!$

"Galactic Gorgonzola, I told you he would get ANGRY!" I squeaked, running out of the cave.

The others followed me, and the **monster** stomped out behind us. He looked like he was in a **terrible mood**.

The king and his guards FLED, leaving me

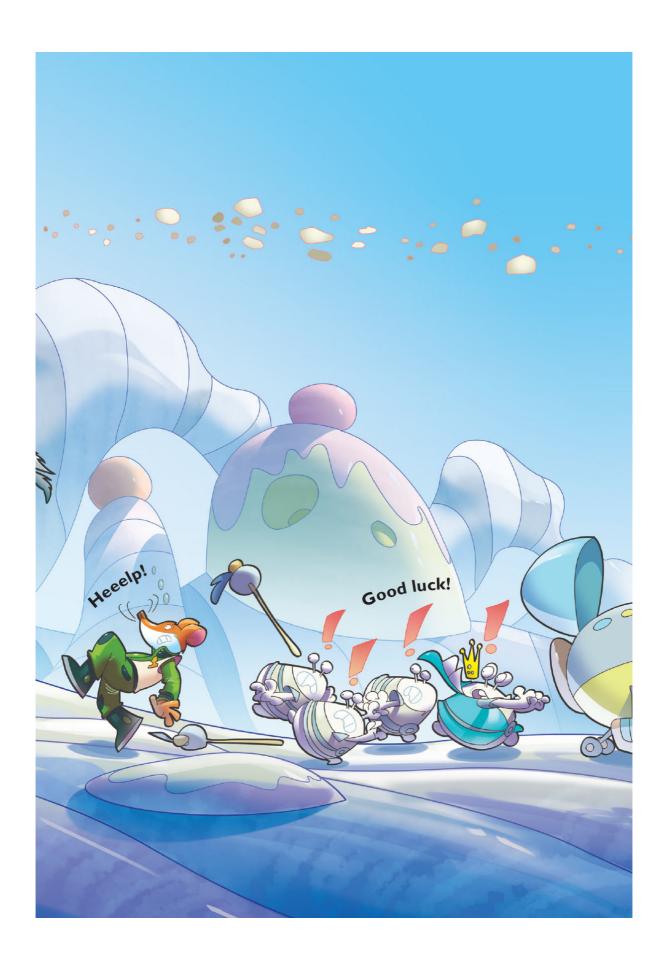


by myself. As I saw the king run away, I remembered something.

"Your Majesty, WAIT! You didn't tell me the trick to defeating the monster!" I yelled after him.

The king stopped. "Oh right, I forgot. Legend says that the monster will only be







defeated when the hero yells, 'Give up, you one-eyed fur ball!' Now excuse me, Cheesemaster, but I must be Running off!"

I couldn't believe my ears. That was the trick? Yelling an Insular? That didn't sound like such a GOOD idea to me.

The king and his guards boarded the space shuttle and flew away.

Stinky space cheese, they had left me all alone!

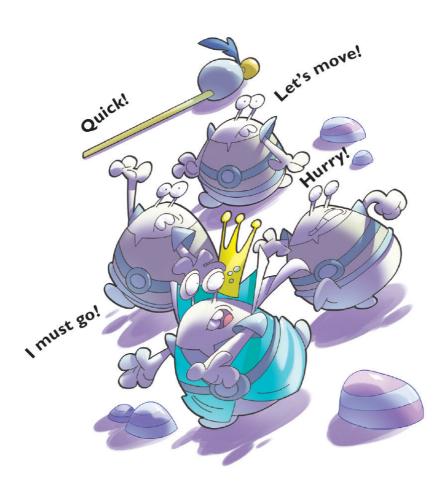
I tried to remember what Professor Greenfur had told me. And the king's trick. But my mind was as IBLANK as a slice of provolone.

I was so **SCARED** I couldn't think straight!

A RUDE AWAKENING



I was frozen with fear. The Slurp Monster **grabbed** me with one hand and lifted me into the air. The words the king had said popped into my brain.





"Give up, you one-eyed fur ball!"

But the words only made the monster ANGRIER! He growled and started to SQUISSI me like a mozzarella ball!

I needed another plan if I wanted to KEEP MY FUR!





SHAKEN LIKE A SWISS CHEESE SMOOTHIE!

"Hang tight, Geronimo, we're here!"

She, Benjamin, Bugsy, Sally, and Robotix came RUNNIG toward me.

The Slurp Monster reached for them with his other five hands. They all **dodged** him. Thea jumped between two **furry** hands and yelled, "Geronimo, this is for you! You can do it!"

Then she threw me a colorful feather.

I hesitated. The king's trick hadn't worked.

What if tickling made the monster even

TERIER?

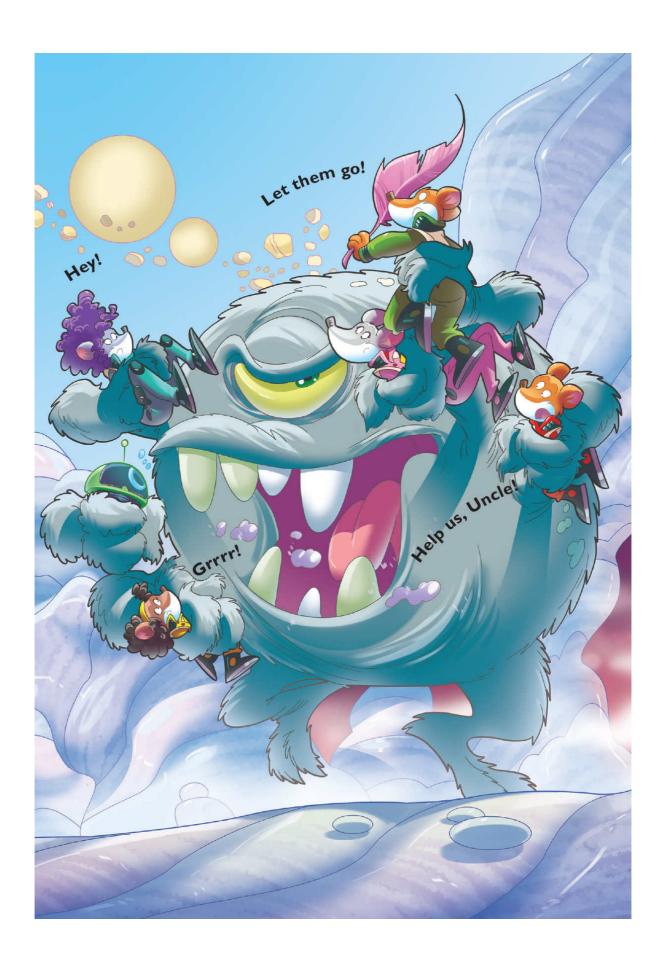
I closed my eyes, imagining the monster **gobbling** me down like a jalapeño popper. When I opened them, I saw that the monster had **grabbed** everybody!

"Help us, Uncle Geronimo!" Benjamin pleaded.

Seeing that the rodents (and robot) I cared about most were in danger gave me **COURAGE**. I grabbed the feather and yelled, "Let go of my friends or you'll have to deal with me!"

Then I began to brush the feather against the monster's head. He stopped growling. His massive belly started to shake, and he closed his mouth to keep himself from laughing. His one giant eye started to tear up.

"Keep doing it, Geronimo. It's working!" Thea urged me.





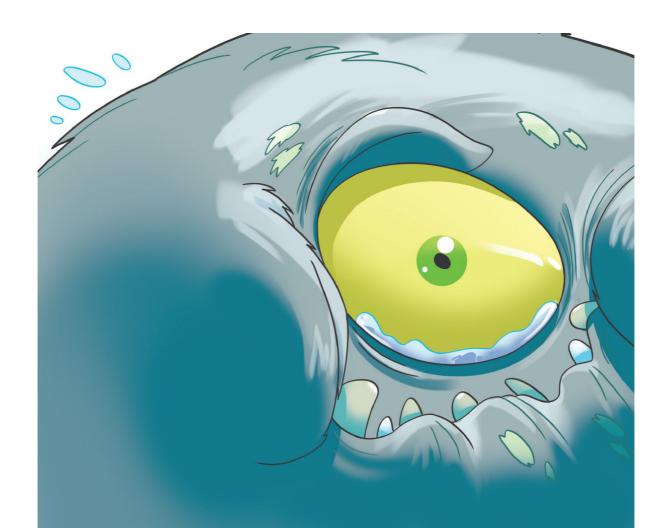
"Yeah, he's in trouble now!" Bugsy cheered.

I waved the feather even **FASTER** and the monster started to **swell up** as he tried hard to hold back his laughter.

Holey craters, it looked like he was about to **BURST**!

I thought I had **WON**, but I was wrong...





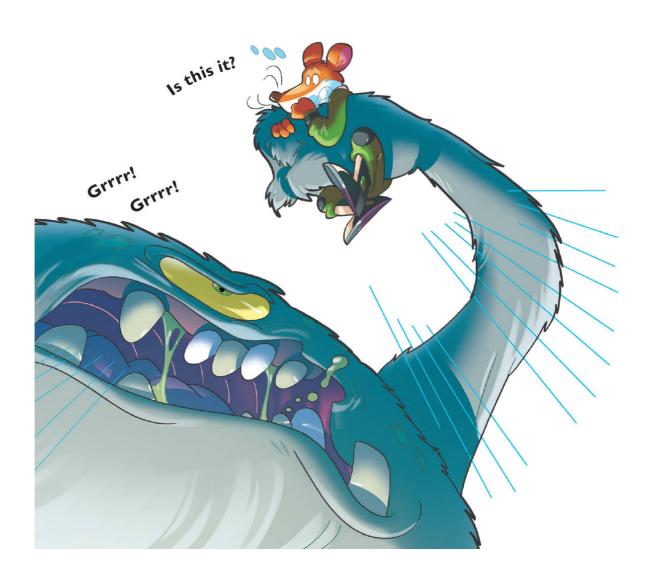
Unfortunately, he managed to hold back his laughter. He **Shook me** like a Swiss cheese smoothie! My insides were starting to feel **serambled**!

All that shaking **knocked** the feather out of my paw. I watched it **FLOAT** slowly to the ground.

Noooooooo!



Then the monster lifted me above his **ENORMOUSE** mouth and opened it wide. Believe me, friends, I have never been so **AFRAID** in all my life . . .





Monstrous Emotions

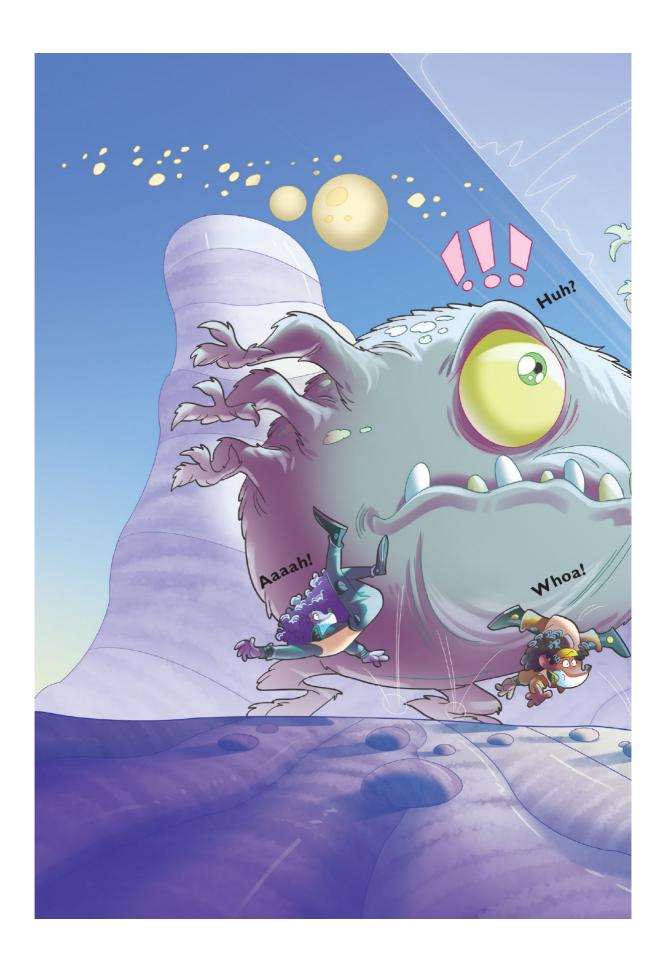
Stinky space cheese, I had to try something!

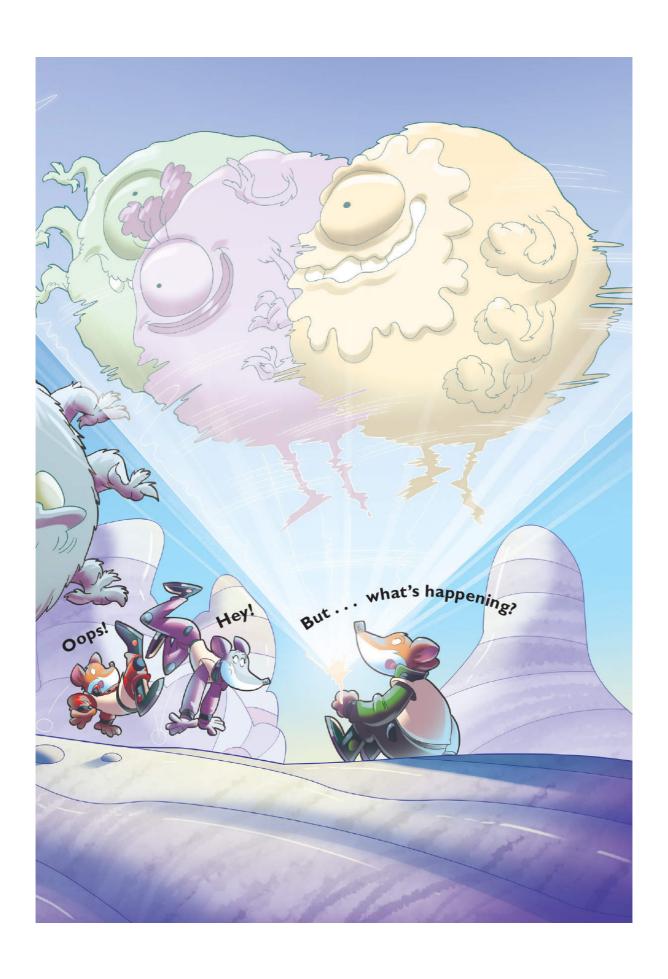
I grabbed the monster's finger and started **shaking** my paw at him. "Let me go, you big mound of fur!" I yelled.

The **SHARING** activated my wrist computer. It began to project the images of the Slurp Monsters that Professor Greenfur had sent me.

The monster's eye grew **WIDE** when he saw the other monsters. Then he let out a big sigh and let go of me and the others! We fell to the ground. **Thump!**

Luckily, the surface of the planet







Mozzarellon is **SOft** and **BOUNCY**, so we didn't get hurt. We looked at one another, **stunned**. We couldn't believe we were free!

"For all the short circuits, why did the monster give up so suddenly?" ROBOTIX asked.

"I have no idea!" I responded.

But Benjamin and Bugsy were both *smiling*—they had figured it out.

"It's obvious, Uncle G!" Benjamin said. "Look at his face. That **giant furball** is emotional!"

Emotional? Is that possible? When I **looked** at the monster, I knew

When I **Looked** at the monster, I knew Benjamin and Bugsy were right.

The monster's angry expression had completely changed. His face was SWEET and Sad.

"Of course!" Sally exclaimed. "The Slurp Monster is all alone on this planet. Seeing



the images of the other monsters is making him feel **8ad**. That's why he let us go!"

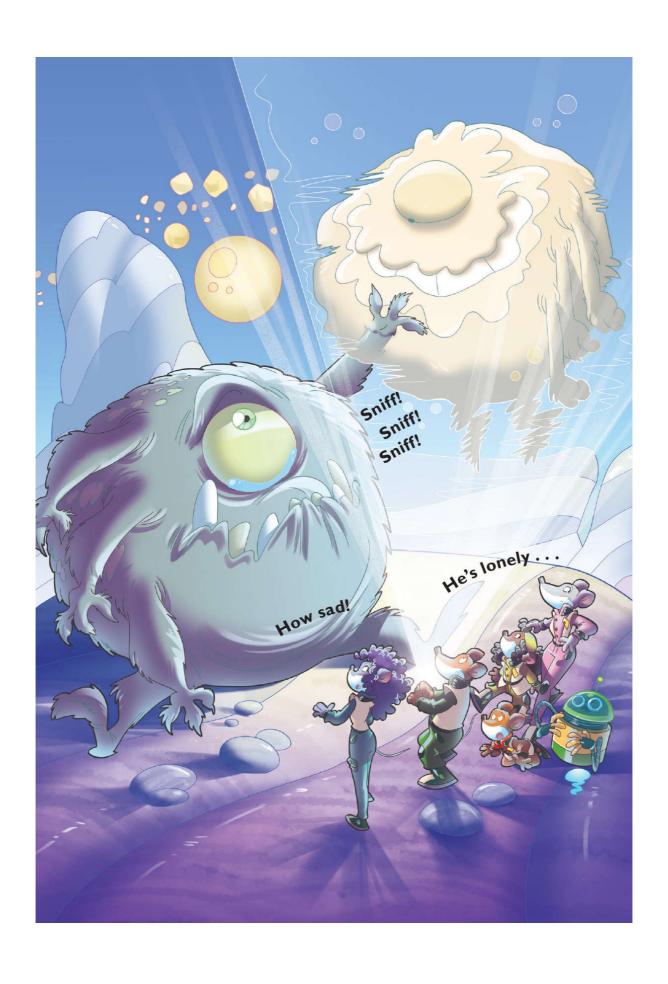
"I don't think he's actually evil at all. I just think he's lonely," Bugsy said.

I understood what they meant. Underneath that mountain of muscles, the monster had a heart!

Galactic Gouda, who would have guessed? I could have **ESCAPED** then with my friends and never looked back. But the monster was so sad. And the cheesix would still have a monster **PROBLEM**. I couldn't just leave, could I?

Then an iDEA hit me.

"What if we help this monster find his friends?" I suggested. "If he were happier, he might stop TERRORIZING the cheesix by stomping and slurping their mozzarella bushes."



Monstrous Emotions



Benjamin and Bugsy looked at each other. "We have an idea," Benjamin said. "Follow us!"

And so we all boarded the space shuttle and quickly returned to the *MouseStar 1*.



When we reached the *MouseStar 1*, Benjamin and Bugsy **ran** to look for Professor Greenfur. The rest of us followed them to the professor's lab.

"Welcome back! What can I do for you?" he greeted us.

Bugsy had to catch her **breath** before she could talk. "We need to know if you can modify the **Teletransportix** to transport something that is **VERY LARGE!**" she blurted out.

"And very FAR AWAY!" Benjamin added.

Professor Greenfur frowned. "It depends on what you have in mind," he said.

ULTRAGIGATONIC POWER!



"We think the Sturp Monster stomps and slurps the mozzarella bushes because he's all alone, and he's bored," Benjamin explained. "So, if we could transport other Slurp Monsters to Mozzarellon, he might be hoppier and stop destroying the mozzarella."

"That's a great idea, Benjamin!" I said.
But Professor Greenfur was still **frowning**.
"This can't be done easily," Professor





Greenfur explained. "To **dematerialize** all the molecules of a Slurp Monster, you would need **Ultragigationic power**. Our Teletransportix only has **regular** gigatonic power."

The room went silent as we looked at one another, **DISAPPOINTED**. Benjamin and Bugsy's plan was great—but how could we make it happen?

"Wait, I have an idea!" Sally exclaimed suddenly. "The Solution might be right under our snouts. The MouseStar 1 engine has ULTRAGIGATONIC POWER! Working together, Professor Greenfur and I could temporarily transfer all of the POWER, of the spaceship to the Teletransportix."

Bugsy grinned. "Then it would have enough enough to transport a Slurp Monster!"



Didn't I tell you that Sally was brilliant? "Excellent thinking, Sally!" Professor Greenfur cried. "There is no time to lose. Let's get to work!"

Sally and Professor Greenfur quickly began to do calculations.

"We need to get to the **control room**," Thea said. "We've got to locate other Slurp Monsters in the universe!"

So Thea, Benjamin, Bugsy, Robotix, and I to the control room, **excited** about the new plan.

400

HARDER, GERONIMO!

I BURST into the control room first.

"Hologramix, locate all monsters similar to the **Slurp Monster** that are present in the universe!" I called out. "Get me their coordinates as quickly as possible so we can teleport them. We are on an **URGENTA** mission to . . ."

That's when I noticed that the control room was DARK. None of the machines were humming. Then a flashlight beam appeared out of the darkness. It was my grandfather!

"What are you **blabbering** on about, Grandson?" Grandfather asked. "I don't know what **MESS** you made in the laboratory, but we've lost all

ELECTRICITY! Nothing works!"

"Of course!" Thea cried. "Professor Greenfur and Sally have transferred all the """ from the MouseStar 1 to the Teletransportix. But we should have asked them to wait. We need power so we can locate the MONSTERS!"





Grandfather shook his head. "It's the same old story. Once again, it's up to me to get you all out of **trouble!** Luckily, when they built the *MouseStar 1*, I made them put in an old **energy generator** that will always work in an emergency."

"What kind of generator?" I asked.

Grandfather pulled a lever on a control panel, and a TRAPPOOR on the floor opened up. Holey craters, I had no idea that hiding place existed!

Then he pulled out a STRANGE contraption. It looked like a bicycle, with pedals and two wheels, linked by cables to a battery. He set it up in front of me.

"Here you go, Geronimo!" he said. "Start

It looked like it would take a lot of pedaling to generate enough **QNQPQU** to get the



control room operating.

"Maybe we should talk to Professor Greenfur," I suggested. "There must be some **other way** to—"

"There you go, Grandson, acting like **Soft cheese** again," he scolded me. "You said so yourself: All the ship's energy is needed to power the Teletransportix. What, are you **afraid** of a little hard work? A little **SWERT**?"

"N-no, Grandfather," I stammered.

Thea stepped up. "I'll do the pedaling," she offered.

"No!" Grandfather barked. "This is a job for the ship's captain!"

"Maybe we could **take turns**?" I suggested, but Grandfather wasn't hearing it.

"Hop on that machine right now, Geronimo!" he yelled.



I tried one more plea. "But, Grandfather, I haven't trained, I'm not ready, and I'm not good at it!"

But Grandfather just **CLARED** at me, and I climbed on the generator with a sigh. Then I began to pedal.

"FASTER, YOU MOLDY MANCHEGO!"

Grandfather yelled. "We need more energy!"





His **booming** voice spurred me on, and I pedaled faster. In a few minutes, the **LIGHTS** in the control room came on. The machines began to hum.

"HOORAY!" everyone cheered.

But I wasn't cheering. I still had to pedal faster . . . and faster . . . and faster . . . and located the monsters!



MONSTER MOLECULES APPROACHING!

Now that Hologramix had power, it began searching for Slurp Monsters. After a few **astroseconds**, it made an announcement.

"All the similar **Slurp Monsters** of the universe have been identified!"

"Good work! Show us images on the screen," Grandfather said.

HOLOGRAMIX obeyed. We saw that every Slurp Monster was alike. No matter what planet they were on, each monster was angrily stomping around, destroying stuff, and slurping it up.

"There's no time to lose," Thea said. "We



need to transport all of them!"

But I was starting to think the plan was a bad idea. "What if they all behave like this on Mozzarellon? We'll be causing even more TROUBLE for the cheesix!"

"Uncle, "I looked the Slurp Monster in the eye and understood that he wasn't bad, just very longly. I am sure that is the same for the others."



I looked into my nephew's kind eyes and knew I had to trust him.

"Prepare the Teletransportix!" I shouted, still pedaling furiously. "We will relocate each of the monsters to Mozzarellon. Hologramix, send the **coordinates** to Professor Greenfur!"

Sally turned on the Teletransportix, and immediately, beams of **GOLDEN LIGHT** shot out in all directions. We watched the **SCreen** to see what would happen.

One by one, the monsters **disappeared** as their molecules dematerialized. The aliens on the planets all **CHEERED** to see the monsters go.

"I think you made the right decision, Ger," Thea said.

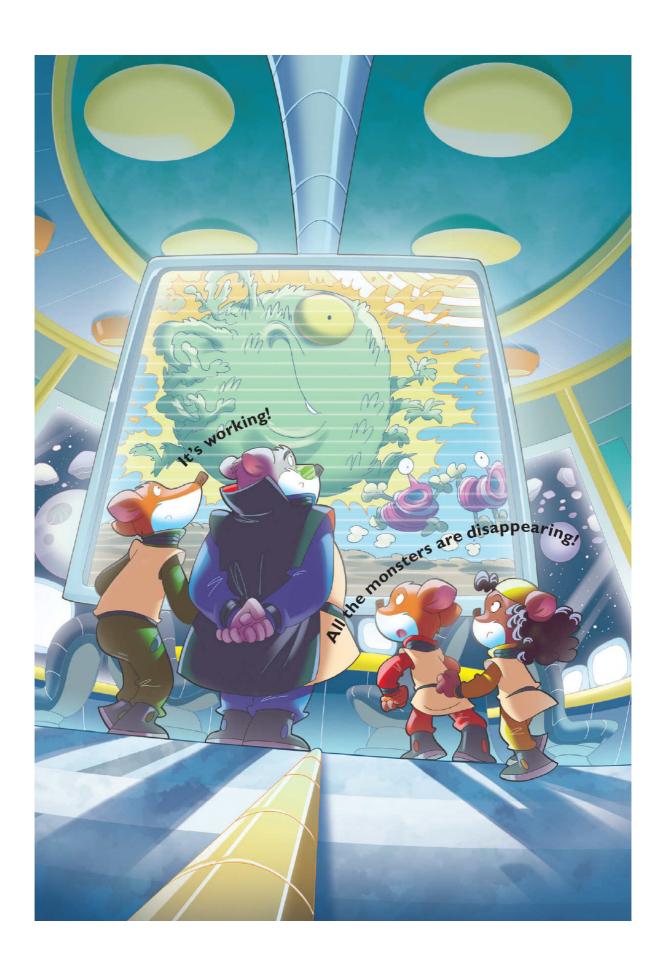
"I hope so," I replied, and then Robotix said exactly what I was thinking.

Monster Molecules Approaching!



"We cannot celebrate just yet," he said. "Right now, millions of MONSTER MOLECULES are approaching Mozzarellon. We still do not know what will happen when the monsters arrive."

I was almost AFRAID to find out. What if we were wrong? MOZZARELLON MIGHT BE DESTROYED!





A FRIEND IS A TREASURE

We hopped back into the **space** shuttle and headed to Mozzarellon. We wanted to be there when the **MONSTERS** arrived.

When we landed, we saw a group of the Slurp Monsters gathered near the city of the cheesix. They all looked SURPRISED at first. But when they saw each other, they smiled and started hugging one another!

"See? They look HAPPY," Benjamin remarked.

King Spherus marched toward us. "Cheesemaster, what is going on? You were supposed to **defeat** the Slurp Monster, not bring us more!"



"But look," Thea said. "They're not stomping or slurping anymore. They're just **HUGGING**."

"The Slurp Monster was just 10 NELY," Benjamin piped up. "Now that he has **Frency**, he won't bother you anymore."

The Slurp Monsters all noble to show they agreed.

"No more stomping and slurping?" King Spherus asked. "Why, that's wonderful! I knew you could do it, Cheesemaster! Thank you!"



"You're welcome," I said. "And now, we really should be @@ING..."

"NONGENGE!" the king cried. "The cheesix will honor our **HCROC5** with three days of dancing and celebration!"

DANGING? GELEBRATION?

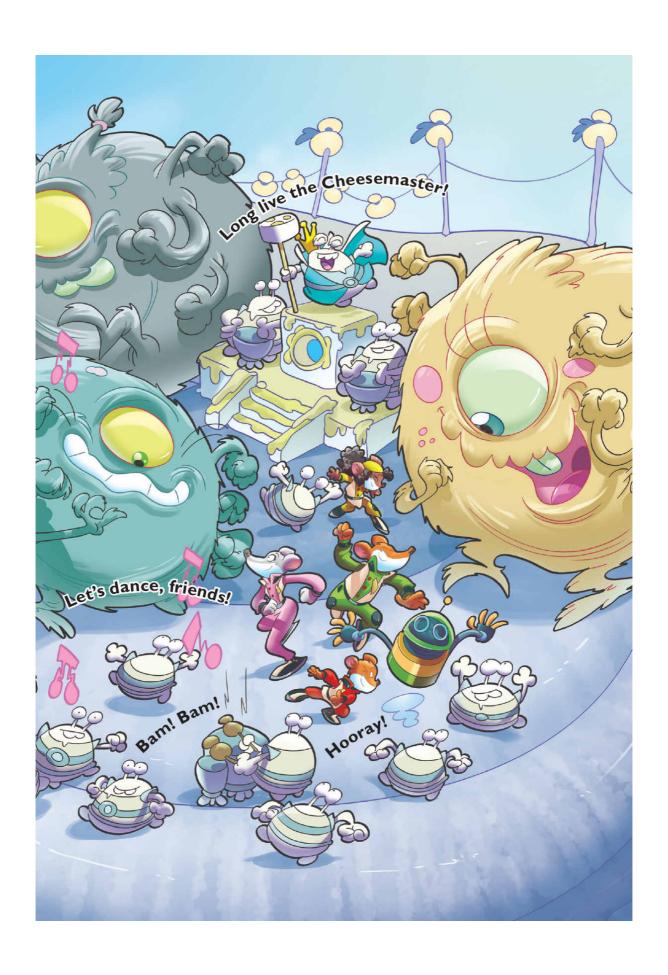
Three Days?! Again?! HEEEEEELD!

I tried to protest, but it was too late. The party had already started!

And that's how, once again, I was forced to **DANCE** for three straight days! The monsters joined the celebration as well, and quickly became **friends** with the cheesix. It felt great to see that our plan had worked out so well!

I was exhausted when the party finally ended, and I was glad that







it was time to **depart**. A happy crowd accompanied us to the shuttle that would return us to the *MouseStar 1*.

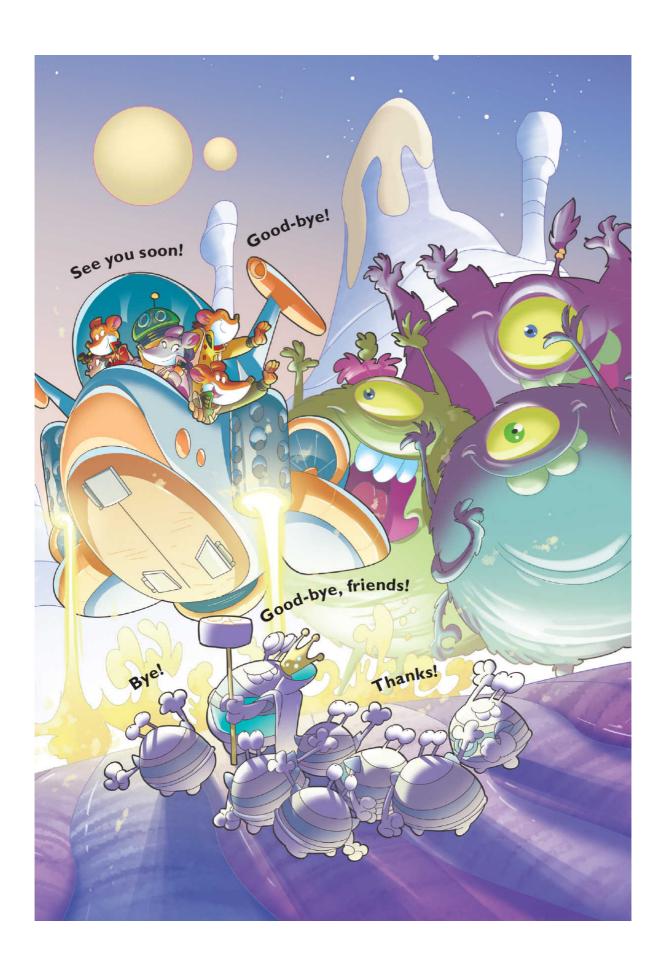
As we climbed on board, we heard a cry. "Hey, don't leave without me!"

It was my cousin **Trap**. Holey craters, we had almost **forgotten** about him!

The effects of the Hypnotizer had finally worn off, and Trap had returned to normal. He climbed on board the shuttle, scratching his head.

"I really don't remember how
I ended up in that enormouse
Lagndromat doing all
that cleaning," he said. "Tell
me, did I miss anything
important?"

We all laughed, and Benjamin and Bugsy filled





him in on what had happened.

Then the shuttle docked with the ship, and we headed to the control room, where Grandfather William was waiting for us.

"It's about time, you **CHUNKS OF COSMIC CHEDDAR!**" he said. "We still have so many corners of the **Universe** to explore! And you, Grandson, tell me: Did you **LEARN** anything from this adventure?"

I thought for a moment. "Yes," I replied. "I learned that **friendship** is the best tool in the cosmos for solving **conflicts**."

"Well done, Grandson!" Grandfather said, patting me on the back. "You actually did a pretty **GOOD JOB** with this mission. You are not a total cheesebrain!"

The words filled me with **joy**. Grandfather almost never complimented me!

But his good mood didn't last long.

A FRIEND IS A TREASURE



"We've **MSSTED** enough time!" he boomed. "Let's get navigating. Full speed ahead!"

The MouseStar 1 zipped away from Mozzarellon, heading toward a new **astral** adventure. But that's a story for another day. See you next time!



Don't miss any adventures of the Spacemice!





Be sure to read all my fabumouse adventures!



#1 Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye



#2 The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid



#3 Cat and Mouse in a Haunted House



#4 I'm Too Fond of My Fur!



#5 Four Mice Deep in the Jungle



#6 Paws Off, Cheddarface!



#7 Red Pizzas for a Blue Count



#8 Attack of the Bandit Cats



#9 A Fabumouse Vacation for Geronimo



#10 All Because of a Cup of Coffee



#11 It's Halloween, You 'Fraidy Mouse!



#12 Merry Christmas, Geronimo!



#13 The Phantom of the Subway



#14 The Temple of the Ruby of Fire



#15 The Mona Mousa Code



#16 A Cheese-Colored Camper



#17 Watch Your Whiskers, Stilton!



#18 Shipwreck on the Pirate Islands



#19 My Name Is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton



#20 Surf's Up, Geronimo!



#21 The Wild, Wild West



#22 The Secret of Cacklefur Castle



A Christmas Tale



#23 Valentine's Day Disaster



#24 Field Trip to Niagara Falls



#25 The Search for Sunken Treasure



#26 The Mummy with No Name



#27 The Christmas Toy Factory



#28 Wedding Crasher



#29 Down and Out Down Under



#30 The Mouse Island Marathon



#31 The Mysterious Cheese Thief



Christmas Catastrophe



#32 Valley of the Giant Skeletons



#33 Geronimo and the Gold Medal Mystery



#34 Geronimo Stilton, Secret Agent



#35 A Very Merry Christmas



#36 Geronimo's Valentine



#37 The Race Across America



#38 A Fabumouse School Adventure



#39 Singing Sensation



#40 The Karate Mouse



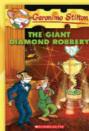
#41 Mighty Mount Kilimanjaro



#42 The Peculiar Pumpkin Thief



#43 I'm Not a Supermouse!



#44 The Giant Diamond Robbery



#45 Save the White Whale!



#46 The Haunted Castle



Geronimo!



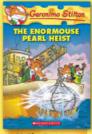
#48 The Mystery in Venice



#49 The Way of the Samural



#50 This Hotel Is Haunted!



#51 The Enormouse Pearl Heist



#52 Mouse in Space!



#53 Rumble in the Jungle



#54 Get into Gear, Stilton!



#55 The Golden Statue Plot



#56 Flight of the Red Bandit



The Hunt for the Golden Book



#57 The Stinky **Cheese Vacation**



#58 The Super **Chef Contest**



#59 Welcome to Moldy Manor



The Hunt for the **Curious Cheese**



#60 The Treasure of Easter Island



#61 Mouse House Hunter



#62 Mouse Overboard!



The Hunt for the Secret Papyrus



#63 The Cheese Experiment



#64 Magical Mission



#65 Bollywood Burglary



The Hunt for the **Hundredth Key**



#66 Operation: Secret Recipe

MEET Geronimo Stiltonord



He is a mouseking – the Geronimo Stilton of the ancient far north! He lives with his brawny and brave clan in the village of Mouseborg. From sailing frozen waters to facing fiery dragons, every day is an adventure for the micekings!



#1 Attack of the Dragons



#2 The Famouse Fjord Race



#3 Pull the Dragon's Tooth!



Don't miss any of these exciting Thea Sisters adventures!



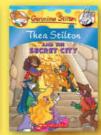
Thea Stilton and the Dragon's Code



Thea Stilton and the Mountain of Fire



Thea Stilton and the Ghost of the Shipwreck



Thea Stilton and the Secret City



Thea Stilton and the Mystery in Paris



Thea Stilton and the Cherry Blossom Adventure



Thea Stilton and the Star Castaways



Thea Stilton: Big Trouble in the Big Apple



Thea Stilton and the Ice Treasure



Thea Stilton and the Secret of the Old Castle



Thea Stilton and the Blue Scarab Hunt



Thea Stilton and the Prince's Emerald



Thea Stilton and the Mystery on the Orient Express



Thea Stilton and the Dancing Shadows



Thea Stilton and the Legend of the Fire Flowers



Thea Stilton and the Spanish Dance Mission



Thea Stilton and the Journey to the Lion's Den



Thea Stilton and the Great Tulip Heist



Thea Stilton and the Chocolate Sabotage



Thea Stilton and the Missing Myth



Thea Stilton and the Lost Letters



Thea Stilton and the Tropical Treasure



Thea Stilton and the Hollywood Hoax



Thea Stilton and the Madagascar Madness



Meet GERONIMO STILTONOOT

He is a cavemouse — Geronimo Stilton's ancient ancestor! He runs the stone newspaper in the prehistoric village of Old Mouse City. From dealing with dinosaurs to dodging meteorites, his life in the Stone Age is full of adventure!









#2 Watch Your Tail!



#3 Help, I'm in Hot Lava!



#4 The Fast and the Frozen



#5 The Great Mouse



#6 Don't Wake the Dinosaur!



#7 I'm a Scaredy-Mouse!



#8 Surfing for Secrets



#9 Get the Scoop, Geronimo!



#10 My Autosaurus Will Win!



#11 Sea Monster Surprise



#12 Paws Off the Pearl!



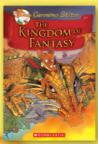
#13 The Smelly Search



#14 Shoo, Caveflies!



Don't miss
any of my
adventures in
the Kingdom of
Fantasy!



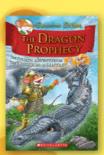
THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE QUEST FOR PARADISE:
THE RETURN TO THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



VOYAGE: THE THIRD ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE DRAGON
PROPHECY:
THE FOURTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



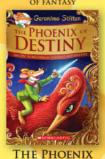
THE VOLCANO
OF FIRE:
THE FIFTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



THE SEARCH FOR TREASURE: THE SIXTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



CHARMS: THE SEVENTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



OF DESTINY: AN EPIC KINGDOM OF FANTASY ADVENTURE



MAGIC: THE EIGHTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



WAND: THE NINTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



SECRETS: THE TENTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY





Dear mouse friends, thanks for reading, and good-bye until the next book. See you in outer space!



Meet Geronimo Stiltonix

He is a spacemouse — the Geronimo
Stilton of a parallel universe! He is
captain of the spaceship *MouseStar 1*.
While flying through the cosmos, he visits
distant planets and meets crazy aliens.
His adventures are out of this world!

SLURP MONSTER SHOWDOWN

Geronimo Stiltonix and the spacemice are visiting a planet where the most delicious wild mozzarella grows. Yum! But the planet is plagued by the Slurp Monster — a scary alien who wants all the mozzarella for himself! Can the spacemice restore harmony on this cheesy planet without getting slurped up themselves?

■SCHOLASTIC



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